

Laura Flournoy, MS

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Education

2022 MS University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition
Dietitian Nutritionist Program

2019 BS Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
Major in Nutrition and Foods, Dietetics
Graduated cum laude

Professional Experience

Research Associate, Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (GSCN)
Omaha, NE | June 2023 – Present

- Assist with research related to three projects collectively focused on health, nutrition, and environmental impacts
 - Aid in the development of surveys in the areas of diet, physical activity, and fruit and vegetable intake
 - Conduct interviews and surveys of research participants
 - Document facilitators and barriers of project implementation
 - Collect health-related data and analyze results

Dietetic Intern, Veterans Affairs Pittsburgh Medical Center
Pittsburgh, PA | August 2021 – April 2022

- Completed more than 1,200 hours of accredited supervised experiential practice required to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist
 - Collected and evaluated relevant data, and analysis of facts and information with attention to the source and strength of the evidence
 - Performed medical nutrition therapy through systematic assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluation according to established standards with individuals ranging in age from young adults to elders, with a variety of medical and nutrition diagnoses
 - Utilized appropriate community resources related to nutrition and food programs

Research Assistant, Feinstein International Center, Tufts University
Remote | August 2021 – March 2022

- Supported Professor Helen Young and a team of researchers at Tufts University who has been commissioned by the World Health Organization (WHO) to undertake a systematic review focused on discovering community characteristics that increase or mitigate the risk of wasting for children up to five years of age
 - Screened journal article abstracts to identify potentially relevant publications, and full-text articles to determine whether they should be included in the review

- Extracted data from included full-text articles and conducted a Risk of Bias assessment for all included articles
- Helped with the setup of the Strength-of-Evidence (SoE) assessment using the Grades of Recommendation, Assessment, Development, and Evaluation approach, and grade the SoE with the PI and co-investigators

Professional Experience (Continued)

Research Assistant, *What Children Eat*, Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Georgia
Remote | March 2021 – September 2021

- Conducted research with Dr. Sina Gallo, Ph.D., MSc, RD, and Dr. Suzanne Baxter, Ph.D., RD, LD, FADA, FAND, on improving the accuracy of dietary recalls among elementary school-aged children, by exploring age, body mass index, and race/ethnicity
 - Screened journal article abstracts to identify potentially relevant publications, and full-text articles to determine whether they should be included in the review

Teaching Assistant, *Nutrition Focused Physical Examination (NFPE)*, Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition, University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA | August 2020 – April 2021

- Aided professor Dr. Deborah Hutcheson, DCN, RDN, LDN with revising and creating content for a nutrition-focused physical examination and assessment graduate course

Intern, *The Autism Dietitian*, Brittyn Coleman MS, RDN/LD, CLT
Remote | August 2020 – April 2021

- Developed research-based nutrition information and resources on foods, nutrients, diets, and supplements relating to nutrition and autism, specifically in adolescents

Qualitative Research Technician, North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC | July 2019 – August 2019

- Supported research related to increasing food and vegetable intake in children among low-income households across the state of North Carolina by assisting with focus groups and analyzing surveys and qualitative data

Intern, North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC | May 2019 – July 2019

- Motivated youth and adults to improve their nutrition and health through access to nutrition education classes for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants and SNAP-eligible clients
 - Developed youth and adult nutrition curricula and nutrition education materials to promote and sustain healthy food options and behavioral education strategies for limited-resource populations

Grants and Contracts – Current

January 2023 -
August 2023

Local Foods Landscape Analysis – Builders Initiative

- Investigate the landscape of local food systems in the Midwest, including health, nutrition, and environmental impacts.
- Role: Research Associate

October 2022 -
October 2025

Food As Medicine 3.0 Evaluation – Feeding America

- To evaluate Feeding America’s Food as Medicine 3.0’s impacts on nutrition and health outcomes and assess implementation successes and challenges.
- Role: Research Associate

January 2019 -
December 2024

***Rooted in Evidence* Grant Program: Measuring the Impact of Innovative Food Bank Programs Across the Nation – Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition Foundation**

- Develop and administer funding announcement for \$20,000-25,000 grants to food banks across the country to implement innovative nutrition projects, provide evaluation, and technical assistance.
- Role: Research Associate

Professional Associations

Professional Association Membership

2017 – 2023 American Dietetic Association (ADA)
2020 – 2022 American Society for Nutrition (ASN)